Salem Lamartine 11:00 5/18/69

*Processional Hymn 21
*Call to Worship "The Lord is my light and my salvation; Whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?
*Confession of Sin
*Assurance of Pardon
Scripture Philippians 4; 10-20
*Gloria Patri
*Apostles Creed
*Pastoral Prayer
Anthem
Announcements

May 25th Comm. Rev. Defibaugh 11;00
" " Mem. Ser. 7;30
Mens choir (Lettermen, 4 freshmen)

JOE TOMITE CHOIR

Offering, Response, Prayer
Hymn 182
Sermon
Prayer & Lord's Prayer
*Hymn 214
*Benediction
*Threefold Amen

St. Jon Emlenton 9:30 5/18/69

*Processional Hymn 87
*Call to Worship "The Lord is my light and my salvation; Whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?"
*Confession of Sin
*Assurance of Pardon
Responsive Reading Pg. 588 Sel. 38
Hymn 292
Scripture Philippians 4; 10-20
*Gloria Patri
*Apostles Creed
*Pastoral Prayer
Anthem
Announcements

May 25th Comm. Rev. Defibaugh 9;30
" " Mem. ser. ~~9;30~~ 11;00 Sch.
" " " " Lamartine 7;30
Mens choir (Lettermen 4 freshmen)

VICKI ASHBAUGH AT ORGAN

Offering, Prayer
*Hymn 477
Sermon
Prayer & Lord's Prayer
*Hymn 468
*Benediction
*Threefold Amen

Call to worship: In Thee O lord do we put our trust; let us never be ashamed; deliver us in thy righteousness.

Confirmation at 5:00 to 6:00 today.

TRINITY CHARGE--THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Ralph C. Link, Pastor
Christ Church, Duncannon 9:00 A.M.
Trinity Church, New Bloomfield 10:30 A.M.

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP February 21, 1971

The Organ Prelude
*The Hymn of Praise 50
*The Call to Worship
*The Prayer of Confession (Unison)
Page 4 Hymnal, first prayer
*The Kyrie
*The Assurance of Pardon
The Scripture----Ecclesiastes 3:1-8
Philippians 4:10-20
*The Gloria Patri
The Pastoral Prayer
Announcements
The Receiving of Tithes and Offerings
*The Doxology
*The Offering Prayer and Lord's Prayer
The Hymn of Meditation 467
The Sermon-----"How Small We Are, How Little We Know!"
The Sermon Prayer
*The Hymn of Response 292
*The Benediction
*The Threefold Amen
*The Postlude

*Congregation Stands

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

This year during Lent we are recommending that each family make daily use of a devotional booklet entitled "The Fellowship of Prayer." These booklets are on the table in the back of the sanctuary. Please take one per family and if there are some left they may be taken next Sunday. FRIENDS & REL. TAKE FOR THEM.

TRINITY CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Annual Congregation Meeting and covered dish dinner will be held this evening at 6:30 P.M. Reports from all groups will be made. Please have a representative of your group there. Bring your own table service. Beverage will be provided.

Installation of the officers elected this morning will be held during the worship service next Sunday.

Mid-Week community Lenten services will begin this Wed. evening, Ash Wed., Feb. 24th at 7:30 P.M. at the Christ Lutheran Church. Rev. Jay Saxe will be the speaker. A schedule of these services is posted on the bulletin board.

Church Women United will observe World Day of Prayer on Friday Mar. 5th at 7:30 P.M. in our church.

ATTENTION SENIOR CITIZENS: By request of those present at the Feb. 10th "Conference on Aging," a second meeting will be held Wed. Feb. 24th, at 2:00 P.M., in the Keboch Memorial Methodist Church, to continue the discussion on your concerns which in turn will guide in the conduct of the National White House Conference.

How Small We Are, How Little We Know

Text: Philippians 4; 13

"There is nothing I cannot master with the help of the One who gives me strength."

Last week our children put some records on and when a certain song began to play, our number one son said, "Listen to this song Dad, I think you could use this for a sermon." Well I listened and had to agree that here indeed was sermon material. So we played the record over a few times so we could copy down the words and this is the song. It is entitled, "How small we are, how little we know." There is no credit given as to its author, nor whether it is from a broadway show. However I think the words tell more than a message. It "We laugh, we cry, we live, we die, and when we're gone the world goes on.
We love, we hate, we learn too late, how small we are, how little we know.
We hear, we touch, we talk too much of things we have no knowledge of.
We see, we feel, yet can't conceal, how small we are, how little we know.
We how the time goes swiftly by, we don't know how, we don't know why.
We reach so high and fall so low. The more we learn the less we know.
Too soon the time to go will come, too late the will to carry on,
and so we leave too much undone, how small we are, how little we know.
We laugh, we cry, we live, we die, and when we're gone the world moves on.
We love, we hate, we learn too late, how small we are, how little we know."

This song may not be religious, yet it has a very religious connotation. It almost parallels the third chapter of Ecclesiates which reads, "There is a time for everything, a time for every occupation under heaven: a time for giving birth, a time for dying, a time for planting, a time for uprooting what has been planted. etc." But this gives you an idea of the chapter. Perhaps the songwriter took his idea from this Biblical book. But whether he did or not, he certainly has an idea of what life is all about. He Realizes that life is never dull, to the extent that we DO NOT know what is going to happen next. Life has it's share of triumphs and pitfalls. It's like the man who thought he was being so funny when he got on the elevator and wisecracked to the operator , "I

bet you have your share of ups and downs." The girl was either in a bad mood or tired of hearing this type of humor, so she replied, "It isn't the ups and downs that I mind, It's the jerks." And life is like this quite often. We seem to be going along fine and then all of a sudden we come to a jerk. Sometimes literally but usually it is a jerk that brings a realization, of something we have missed RECOGNIZING ~~realizing~~ perhaps all of our life. We may plod on through life day after day unaware of our surroundings. We see the same old things and do the same old things and life holds no change or challenge. We may travel the same old roads and see the same old sights and nothing ever seems different. Then one day we may decide to take a change from the ordinary and we decide to CHANGE OUR ROUTE & GO INTO ~~drive up into~~ the hills OR OFF THE BEATEN TRACK ~~take a~~. It may be a very nice warm sunshiny day, and we may for the first time see a beauty around us such as we have never seen before. The pungent musty smells of the forest that MAY have gone unnoticed before. The wind rustling through the trees, and the sky so blue with big fleecy white clouds drifting along. Now it isn't that these things were never there before. It's just that too often we cannot see them for the fact that we are too busy running helter skelter living our lives. THE OLD SAYING OF NOT SEEING THE FOREST FOR THE TREES APPLIES HERE Have you ever come into contact with someone who had been ill for a certain length of time? Oftentimes they will tell of a certain day, or a certain time during their convalescence, when for some unexplainable reason, life appeared different to them. Things that perhaps were taken for granted before, now took on a new beauty. The air never smelled so sweet before. The sun never shone as bright as it did then. Everything seemed different and new and the world all of a sudden had become a pretty nice place in which to live. Perhaps some of you have had this very experience. Somewhere along the road of life SOME of you MAY have had a change occur in your lives that has made everything seem different. This in essence is one point the author of this song is telling us.

But there is one other thing he is saying. This is the point that no matter what we know and no matter who we are, we are still small and insig-nificant, and our knowledge is also limited. Albert Einstein was supposed to have been one of the most brilliant men who ever lived. He was able to solve very complicated mathemetical problems with ease. Yet forvall of his knowledge, he must have remained a humble man. He was willing to give credit to someone

else for also having knowledge. Once he was being interviewed and the reporter asked him about a certain date in history. The reporter began to take him to task for not knowing what any school boy would know, and that perhaps Mr. Einstein was not so brilliant after all. Mr. Einstein replied very quietly that he did not fill his head with that kind of knowledge. He went on to explain that other learned men spent considerable time and effort to compile this knowledge into books, and if he wanted to find out this information all he needed to do was to search out the book for the answer. So you see, here was a man acknowleged to be one of the most brilliant, conceeding that he did not know everything and acknowledging that others were intelligent too. Knowing that we do not own a monopoly on brains or talent in any one field is a large step toward knowledge. But too often people of average intelligence seem to feel inferior or beneath the intelligence of some other people. They develop a defeatist attitude and say, "Whats the use?" "I can't do that, or"I don't have the brains to do that." "Whats the use of trying?" The final result is that of self defeat and we are beaten before we begin. But Paul gave us the answer to this. And what he gave us ties this problem and the feeling expressed in this song together, so that we can see there is hope for each of us.

We can all very readily say, "how small we are and how little we know," but we can also say, "there is nothing I cannot master with the one who gives me strength." This was part of Paul's advice to the Philippians. Stating this makes us aware that we can master all things in life with the strength and ability that comes from God. There are many cases of men and women who have not been given much as far as stature and size go. Or who are just common folk. But who rose to prominence by their simple belief and trust. They were not blessed with high IQ's and yet they overcame obstacles and handicaps as they are called by other people, to become some of the greatest individuals to walk the face of this earth. Polycarp of Smyrna was one of these men. In Smyrna the Jews were very numerous. This was in the early days of the church. Polycarp was the bishop of Smyrna for a long time. He was martyred for his faith on February 23rd in the year 155. It was the time of the games in the city and some of those who

were reveling there raised a shout of, "Away with the athiests; let Polycarp be searched for." And so a little slave was arrested and under torture revealed the whereabouts of the bishop. But he was ready for this because he said he had a dream that he was being burned at the stake. When they came to arrest him, he ordered that those who had come for him be given food and drink. He requested an hour to pray before he was taken away. Not even the police captainwanted to see this man executed, and he begged Polycarp to give in. He said, "What harm is it to say Caesar is lord and to offer sacrifices and be saved?" But Polycarp would not listen. When he entered the arena the pro-consul gave him the choice of cursing the name of Christ and sacrificing to Caesar and living. He said, "Eighty and six years have I served him, and He has done me no wrong. How can I blasheme my king who has saved me? At this he was threatened with fire at the stake. To which he replied, "You threaten me with the fire that can only burn for a time and is quickly quenched, for you do not know the fire which awaits the wicked in the judgement to come and in everlasting punishment." "Why are you waiting?" "Come and do what you will." So the crowds came bringing wood for the fire and the Jews even though it was the sabbath, broke the commandment about working and carried bundles of wood, to dispose of this threat to their religion. And so this aged man was put to death for his faith. But before the flames consumed him he prayed a prayer of praise and thanksgiving to God. Polycarp must have realized in his life that the only thing he had in life was Christ and this gave him the strength to endure the fate he endured.

But because of his love for his saviour he became one of the giants of the Chriatin church. Perhaps he had what he thought were handicaps in his life too. Each of us have them or think we do. Lack of education, lack of size, lack of knowledge, and these keep us from doing many things. But if we draw our strength from God and take him with us wherever we go, then we too can be a giant. Not as Polycarp perhaps, but we can attain the size God wants us to be. God doesn't want anyone to be a quitter. Instead he wants us to press on in life. He blesses those who realize they are only mortal and who seek his help.

When a man realizes, "How small we are, how little we know," he has taken the first step. When he says with Paul, "There is nothing I cannot master with the help of the one who gives me strength," he has taken the second step. And with these two admissions and acknowledgements before him, man, any manis ready to take the next step forward, and this is the living of life, under the help and guidance of God. And each step leads ever onward, ever upward, until we reach our Father at the end. Let us pray.